TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER, 1997

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Bud Hughes K4CWG 269-0779 SECRETARY: Marty Coin WD4JNM 264-9447
V. PRESIDENT: Pike Abell W4EPU 269-4208 TREASURER: Clyde Lee K4EOS 267-9375

CLUB INFORMATION

TARC MEETINGS :	**Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs at Jaycee Building.**
TARC NETS:	**VIP - Thursdays at 1000 hrs on 146.910**
	FRIENDSHIP - Thursdays at 1830 hrs. ao146.910
	MOSQUITO - Wednesdays at 1900 hrs on 28.333
TARC REPEATERS:	**VHF - 146.910 and146.970. UHF 444.150**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

Thanks to Clarence, KV4BY for chairing the Nominating Committee for the election of TARC officers and board members.The Nominating Committee will present to the club the names of those TARC members who have been contacted and who have agreed to run for a specific office. In addition to the slate of candidates as submitted, you as a member in good standing have the right to nominate from the floor for consideration, any TARC member in good standing for the office as being voted upon.

The election of officers will be by ballot and the casting of ballots and election of officers will be as follows: 1) President. 2) Vice President. 3) Secretary. 4) Treasurer. The next item of business is to elect the Board of Directors. There will be four (4) repeater custodians who in accordance with the club by-laws serve on the board. They are: 1) Les, K4SJC - 146.91 repeater. 2) Warren, AF4EA - 146.97 repeater. 3) Dave, WB4SIG - 444.15 repeater. 4) Larry, WB9MFJ - Rose node. Since the repeater custodians automatically serve on the board, you need not nominate either of them.

Be sure and attend the TARC November meeting and cast your vote for the officers and board members of your choice. The newly elected officers and board members will be inaugurated during the December, 1997 Christmas dinner - date of which to be announced.

The TARC Exam Team has reached a milestone. On October 27, our team examined the 1000th applicant. I want to thank the guys for giving of their time to assist in helping those interested in amateur radio to achieve their goal. By the way, Sherry, KF4HTC was the 1000th applicant. Sherry showed up at the test session 1-1/2 hours early to make sure she was there in time to take the 13 WPM and upgrade to General. (See page 5)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

NOV. 1 N2USO MARIE GENCORELLI
NOV. 1 KE4BBK ORA PROSSER
NOV. 4 KD4CBT CARL HUGHES
NOV. 9 KE4GOQ MIKE HADDAD
NOV. 11 KF4TVV WILLIAM ENGLAND
NOV. 14 KC4SYD CLIFF HOAG
NOV. 14 KD4VFS STEVE MORRIS
NOV. 16 KE4MXB BONNIE FROST
NOV. 18 KE4TKC HARMONY BURDICK
NOV. 22 AE4LE RALPH HALL
NOV. 23 KS4JN RAYMOND HUDSON
NOV. 25 AA4HP HANK PHILLIPS
NOV. 26 KC4HIO RICHARD SWEATT
NOV. 26 KD4HNW KEN DENMAN
NOV. 27 KR4HS GEORGE SMITH
NOV. 27 K4EGV CHARMAINE COFFMAN
NOV. 28 K4VTY DAVE SPRINGER
NOV. 28 KD4JBE HOOT GIBSON

E-MAIL FROM BRASIL

(thanks to Carol & Jose)

Hi friends,
Two months are gone and only now I could save time to write. Bad things had happened as soon as we came back home. Olga got very sick and had to go to the hospital spending more than a month there. Now she is getting better but...my oldest brother (52) got cancer and next Monday he is going to Rio de Janeiro for an operation. All his face seems to be completely full of this disease. And I have the School to take care of. You know...too many things had happened at the same time. This is the news (bad news) from here. I really apologize for being so late but I was not feeling goode all these days.

Let me know about you. How are things up there. (Mike, I turned on the radio only once, enough to say that it is OK.) Jerry, KC4YDP, I didn't forget to send you the Brasilian coffe. Yesterday was my birthday (I turned 51 on Oct. 15) Hubert, I have got all the videos you have sent. Many thanks my friend. I really appreciated that. For all: I will send a special video showing Brazil and Brazilian coffe. Please wait a little bit more.

All the students say hello to all of you. Many, many thanks for everything you have done. It was really wonderful to meet all those friends from Mosquito. Tell them that we are very thankful. I promise I will write more often.

Take care my friends. May our Lord bless you forever.

Your brother in Brasil, I. J. Seelig (Alex)

NOMINATION FOR 1997
HAM OF THE YEAR

Please clip out this form and send to: TARC, P. O. Box 73, Titusville FL 32781-0073. If necessary, please enter your comments about the nominee on a separate piece of paper. Nominations must be received by November 24.

MY NOMINATION FOR HAM OF THE YEAR IS:

_____

NEW USE FOR QST

From 11/97 QST "Correspondence"

While cleaning the bathroom recently, I noticed something unusual near the heating vent on the floor. At first I thought that a large rubber band had become stuck in the fins of the vent cover. So I simply reached down and pulled out...a live snake!

I had been carrying around the August 1997 issue of QST, and it happened to be the object nearest to me (besides the snake). Scooping up the issue, I brought it down hard and sent the snake to serpent heaven! Another great use for a great magazine! *Dave Lindley, W4TR, Greensboro NC.*

HINTS & KINKS

From 11/97 QST

GARAGE DOOR RFI

I recently discovered that my Genie garage door opener was generating severe RFI. Small groups of "birdies", spanning a few kilohertz, repeated approximately every 100 kHz. It was a problem in the HF bands, and it was very annoying. The radiation came from the infrared sensors. I was unable to find anything in the QST indexs over the past few years on "garage door RFI", so I called the Genie company.

Although my system was installed only a year ago, it turns out they have since redesigned their sensors due to other problems. If you have a similar RFI problem, call Genie at 800-995-1111 and ask for Darlene, who is familiar with the problem. They will ship you new sensors that do not radiate. *Jim Cook, W6YA, Leucadia, CA*

IC-706 MIKE PROBLEM

I have noted problems with two different IC-706 MF/HF/VHF transceivers when operating in the voice mode using the mike connector in the back of the rig. RF feed-back seems to be the problem on these rigs, especially when they feed poorly matched or end-fed antennas.

The cure is simply to use the mike connector under the control panel in the front of the rig. Then the distortion problems disappear. So, if you note transmit audio problems when using the rear mike connector, try switching to the front mike jack and all should be well again. *Curt Young, K5HK, Reno, NV*

HAPPENINGS

From 11/97 QST

SOLAR FLUX TOPS 100 FOR FIRST TIME IN THREE YEARS!

The solar slump appears to be over, and HF conditions could be the best we've seen in years. "We are definitely through the minimum and on the upswing of the next solar cycle!" concludes solar observer Tad Cook, K7VVV of Seattle, WA. For the first time in three years, he reports, the solar flux topped the 100 mark in early September, peaking at 119.4 on September 8. Cook says the solar flux has not been above that level since late January of 1994.

As of late September, Cook was reporting a 90-day average solar flux of 81. But this greatly increased activity also brought along some geomagnetic disturbances. As this report went to press, Cook was speculating that the solar flux could top 115 by mid-fall. The estimate was based upon the previous solar rotation, so new active regions on the sun could send numbers higher.

This new activity means that DX now is possible on the higher HF bands. Prior to now, 20 meters was the primary band for worldwide propagation. Cook advises checking 15 and even 10 meters, where openings are now possible, especially over north-south paths.

PHASE 3D LOOKING FOR A NEW RIDE

It was a bit like flying standby, and AMSAT's Phase 3D Amateur Radio satellite did not make the cut aboard the European Space Agency's Ariane 502 rocket in late September. And once it became clear that Phase 3D definitely would not be aboard, AMSAT began angling with ESA for a new launch opportunity. It also asked hams to hold their tongues.

In mid-September, AMSAT made official what most observers had already figured out for themselves - that the Phase 3D payload would not be going up this fall and very likely not at all this year. In late July, AMSAT announced that it would have to structurally modify the Phase 3D spaceframe to bring it up to new mechanical standards made necessary by a late change in ESA launch environment specifications. But, making the changes put Phase 3D out of sync with the Ariane 502 launch schedule. As a result, ESA concluded that Phase 3D would not be able to fly on the Ariane 502 mission as initially hoped. The structural changes - expected to be completed in September - also added $25,000 to Phase 3D's cost.

ESA's action did not go over well with some hams, who posted what AMSAT called "several derogatory comments regarding ESA" on the AMSAT bulletin board. AMSAT jumped in to defend ESA against its critics and declared that the agency "has been very supportive of AMSAT for almost 20 years."

AMSAT pointed out that, while the first Phase 3 satellite "was a passenger on an Ariane vehicle which, unfortunately, ended in a launch failure in 1980," ESA has since "made-amends" by using Ariane vehicles to launch AO-10, AO-13, the four Microsats and two UoSats, KO-23, KO-25, IO-26 and AO27. AMSAT says it's in AMSAT's best interests that the Ariane 502 launch goes well "even without Phase 3D aboard." (ESA announced in late September that the Ariane 502 schedule had slipped to mid-October.)

Similar sentiments were expressed August 30 during a Phase 3D Program Board meeting at the Orlando Phase 3D Integration Lab.

THE DOCTOR IS IN

From 11/97 QST

Q Leonard Tedeschi, KC4WQS, asks, "What is the Farnsworth method of learning Morse Code?"

A For decades hams have been searching for various methods to make it easier to learn Morse code. The Farnsworth method is one of the more successful attempts, which is why you hear it used on so many code-practice tapes, including those sold by the League. Development of the technique is credited to Donald (Russ) Farnsworth, but its true origins are veiled in mystery. No matter who discovered it first, everyone calls it the "Farnsworth method."

Basically, it involves sending characters (letters, numbers and punctuation) at higher speeds with longer gaps of silence between characters. For example, the dits and dahs that comprise the letter Z (dahdahdidit) are sent at, say, 13 WPM, while the silence between the Z and the next letter is equivalent to what you'd hear at a sending speed of 5 WPM. Once you've learned the sounds of the characters at your "goal" speed in the Farnsworth format, it's usually easy to increase your copying speed.

Q I just installed an HF transceiver in my car and it seems to be working well. Whenever I key the radio, however, I can hear the sound of the engine changing just a little. In addition, the tachometer indicates a slightly reduced RPM. Is this normal?

A You don't mention how much power you're running, but if you are using a typical 100-W transceiver, you're probably drawing a substantial amount of current in the transmit mode. If you're operating SSB, for example, the radio could be pulling as much as 25 A on voice peaks. This is a big load on your car's battery, and the alternator responds by attempting to compensate and maintain the battery's charge. The harder the alternator works, the greater mechanical load it places on your engine. Your engine works a little harder and, unless you give it more gas by pressing on the accelerator, it will respond by running a bit slower. You hear the effect and see it on your tachometer. Don't worry. If your alternator and battery are in good shape, no harm is done.

PRESIDENT.....from page 1

My congratulations to this lady of whom I am proud. And yes, in love with for 44+ years.

>We hope you will receive the news letter in time to respond to our request to any and all members who can to please come out to Fox Lake Park on Friday afternoon and volunteer your assistance to the various committees who will be getting set up for the TARC 7th annual Hamfest/Flea Market. Remember...supervisors are welcome. The Hamfest is not just for "Hams". There will be items of interest to every one. Please invite your neighbors, friends and relatives to come out and see what is going to be a lot of fun. Remember, this is one of the few hamfests that the entrance fee is free, the food great and modestly priced.

>Don't forget to cast your vote for HAM OF THE YEAR.

>Hope to see you at Fox Lake Park November 7 for the setup, then November 8 for the Fest, then November 25 for our club meeting/election. 73's

FCC ISSUES GATE 3 CALL SIGNS!

From 11/97 QST

More new call signs to remember! Six weeks to the day after the opening of Gate 3, the FCC began processing these vanity call sign applications. FCC personnel in Gettysburg, PA had spent much of the intervening time clearing out a backlog of vanity applications filed prior to the Gate 3 opening and matching up payments with electronic applications. On Wednesday, September 17 the FCC issued approximately 600 vanity call signs to those who had filed applications on August 6, the opening day.

>Judging from the call signs that turned up on the FCC database, some Advanced class hams took advantage of Gate 3 to obtain Group C (1x3) call signs where the suffix comprised either a first name (we spotted a Joe, a Don, a Ken, a Bob and a Gay, for example) or a set of initials. Perhaps apropos of his QTH, Gene Uliasz of Gun Barrel City, TX used Gate 3 to turn KC4WA into K5TNT. Formerly KF6CG, Georgia A. Lawrence of Manhattan Beach, CA, obtained K5GAL. Other applicants obtained new Group B call signs, sometimes trading one 2x2 in for another. For example, Karl Mortensen of Wakefield, RI swapped KE1FK for KA1RL. Still others went for the snappy suffix. Charles Pharis of Kagel Cyn, CA turned in KK6NE for KA6USA. Michael Esposito of Germantown, TN swapped WA2VXV for WA2AW. Yvonne Lane of Kingwood TX gave up KF5MY for W5XYL.

>A few, like West Gulf Director Jim Haynie, just shortened the prefix. Haynie went from WB5JBP to W5JBP. Others went for one appropriate for their QTH. Teriann Miner of Palmer, Alaska turned in her lower-48 call sign KG0OY for KL7AT. The Iowa DX and Contest Club got WI0WA.

>In all, it appears that the FCC received more than 1000 vanity call sign applications on August 6. Because earlier gates remain open, it was impossible to get an accurate count of applications filed solely under Gate 3, however. The FCC still has not indicated when it plans to open Gate 4, which will make the vanity call sign program available to General, Tech Plus, Technician and Novice licenses.

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

By Pike W4EPU

Being retired as I am and as time passes, one seems to forget the toils and stresses of an ordinary work day. I do recall that if you think you are about to have a bad day, one thing to do is eat a live green frog the first thing in the morning. Nothing worse will happen to you the rest of the day.

Here are thirteen other tips which just may see you through your work day or even your career.

1. The authority of a person is inversely proportional to the number of pens and pencils carried in his/her shirt pocket.

2. If you don't succeed, try again, then quit. No use in being a fool about it.

3. A pat on the back is only a few centimeters from a kick in the butt.

4. If it wasn't for the last minute, nothing would get done.

5. Never delay the ending of a meeting, or the beginning of the cocktail hour.

6. If you are good, you will be assigned all of the work. If you are really good, you will get out of it.

7. You can go anywhere you want if you look serious and carry a clipboard.

8. Don't be irreplaceable. If you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.

9. There will always be beer cans rolling around on the floor of your car when the boss asks for a ride home from the office.

10. When you don't know what to to do, walk fast and look worried.

11. The more stuff you put up with, the more stuff you're going to get.

12. Everything can be filed under "miscellaneous".

13. The last person that was fired or quit will be held responsible for everything that goes wrong.

PLEASE NOTE

IN CW RESULTS - SINGLE OPERATOR - NORTH AMERICA (page 94, CQ Magazine, October, 1997) THAT AA1HB, CHARLIE CHENEY SCORED 553,880 POINTS IN THE CQ WORLD-WIDE DX CW CONTEST. AA1HB IS A MEMBER OF TARC AND THE SON OF W1BSO, MAYNARD CHENEY.

CONGRATULATIONS, CHARLIE!

YOU MAY BE A REDNECK IF.....

>You've ever bathed with flea and tick soap.
>Your good deed for the month was hiding your brother for a few days.
>Your wheelbarrow breaks and it takes four relatives to figure out how to fix it.
>Your momma doesn't remove the Marlboro from her lips before telling the State Trooper to kiss her butt.
>You're an expert on worm beds.
>Your family tree does not fork.
>The flood history of the area can be seen on your living room walls.
>There's a gun rack on your bicycle.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

By Marty WD4JNM

The meeting was opened by Bud K4CWG. After the Pledge to the Flag , a moment of silence and introduction of members and guests, Pike W4EPU passed out ballots for the nomination of Ham of the Year. These ballots must be turned in no later than the November meeting date. He said that your comments on the ballot will count when the final tally is made.

Bud announced the death of Pat Patterson, AD4CU. He will be missed.

It was decided by a show of hands (33 to 15) in favor of having the Christmas dinner at the Jaycee building. The affair will be catered. Carole Ann KC4VIN agreed to find a suitable caterer. Date and time to be announced.

Bud, K4CWG, showed a copy of a sample ballot to be used at the November meeting in the election of officers. Kay, KE4MXF asked if the election process could be speeded up by voting for all officers at one time. Bud explained that this would be difficult because of nominations from the floor and the fact that after the president is elected, the other nominees for president will automatically be nominees for the Vice President's election.

Bob W4VQB asked why there had not been a meeting of the board members this year. Bud explained that due to the fact that some board members work odd shifts, it was hard to get a quorum of members for a meeting. He said that if a vote by the board members was required, he called each and everyone to get their vote. After much discussion, it was decided that a limited number of board meetings would be held throughout the year.

After the refreshment break Bud talked about the TARC hamfest to be held on November 8. Help is needed in every area. Warren AF4EA needs help with parking. Bill KT4CQ needs help with Tail Gate parking. Clyde K4EOS needs help on Friday afternoon and evening in moving the tables into position and putting up various signs and Bud K4CWG needs help in putting out the road signs. Talk-in frequencies are 146.910 and 146.970 with Dave AE4OJ and Dave AC4JX and possibly Mike KE4MWZ doing the talk-in.

There were 60+ members and guests present. Meeting adjourned at 2045.

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Clyde Lee, K4EOS

Balance Forward From 1996	$5703.59
Deposits Year to Date	6344.22
TOTAL INCOME	**12047.81**
Expenditures	7367.75
BALANCE AS AT 10/31/97	**4680.06**
FEMA Escrow	2363.75
BALANCE-CLUB FUNDS	**$2316.31**

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

WORKERS NEEDED IN ALL AREAS

FRIDAY, 11/7:

1:00 PM: LOAD FOOD INTO KITCHEN.
MARK OFF HANDICAP PARKING AREA.

4:00 PM: LAY OUT TABLE SETUP.
MOVE TABLES TO ROW ALIGNMENT.
PUT UP TABLE ROW SIGNS.
INSTALL AND TEST PA SYSTEM.

SATURDAY, 11/8:

6:00 AM: TAIL GATE PARKING BEGINS.
REGULAR PARKING BEGINS.

2:00 PM: CLEAN UP BEGINS.
TAKE DOWN SIGNS.
TAKE DOWN PA SYSTEM.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 266 (195 regular, 65 family, 6 honorary)

NEW MEMBERS: KF4UDB EMILY WALBROEKE
KA0YSO DAVID JACKSON

RENEWALS:
KB4BHS GLEN LEE
W1BSO MAYNARD CHENEY
AA1HB CHARLIE CHENEY
WA4CUO BILL HOSKINSON
KF4CYE ERNEST CODY
KD4DOJ FAYE SKIDMORE
KE4FFA MONA SKIDMORE
N9EZV KEN TENDICK
N9FAB LORAINE TENDICK
KE4GOQ MIKE HADDAD
KE4HOE FRED HADDAD
K4IXU JOHN PITTMAN
KU4JL GARY COMMER
WA4JWU ROGER VERBAL
AC4KU AL SANFORD
KD4ZAH JEWEL SANFORD
N4MOD JIM HARRIS
KE4MWY DAN CHYOTA
KF4FEZ GAIL CHYOTA
AB4NT ARNOLD THRASH
KA4NZM DICK RUFFE
W5RAQ RON RICHARDSON
N6USP BOBBY JONES
AC4WM MITCH MATHENY

HAMFESTS:

11/08	Titusville
11/8	Port St.Lucie
11/15-16	Miami Hamboree
11/22-23	Tampa
12/6	Okeechobee
12/6	Ocala
12/13	Lake City

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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HAPPY THANKSGIVING